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## MOTHERS' PEACE DAY.

There are fifteen thousand women connected with the Local Peace Associations of the British Empire. The annual meeting was held at Wisbech, England, May 20. Miss Peckover, the indefatigable secretary, made the encouraging annual report. Professor Trueblood of Iowa, U. S. A., addressed the meeting on the relation of women and children to war.

Our friends in Philadelphia celebrated Mothers' day June first, at St. George's Hall. Among other exercises was a beautiful poem, extracts from which we give.

Mothers! to you the sacred trust is given,  
To train in earliest years the growing mind;  
To watch the dawn of intellect, and even  
In age matured, the ties of home to bind.  
  
Who but a mother can rehearse the story  
Of Him, the sinless and the undefiled,  
Who left his Father's wondrous throne of glory  
And came to earth, a weak and helpless child?  
  
Train them in actions of continued kindness  
To all of every name or clime or race,  
Teach them the folly, sin and utter blindness  
Of men whose bloody deeds their land disgrace.  
  
Let not the warrior's fame be made alluring,  
Though praised in history and embalmed in song;  
Greatness and goodness that shall be enduring,  
Come not by acts of violence and wrong.  
  
The cannon's roar may drown the cries of anguish,  
The sulphurous smoke may hide the blood-dyed plain,  
But who can cheer the myriad hearts that languish  
And weep for those they ne'er shall see again?  
  
Rise! Mothers! rise!—the years are onward speeding,  
The cause we advocate must not delay—  
To you we turn in confidence, still pleading  
For aid in bringing in the brighter day.

—John Collins.

## A DANIEL COME TO JUDGMENT.

BY A LASELL GIRL.

In the July number of THE AMERICAN ADVOCATE OF PEACE AND ARBITRATION, there is an article which smacks of the battlefield and paints for our American girls a future which is surely alarming,—Amazonian womanhood. This prophet waxes warm over the demoralizing effects of military drill in girls' schools, considering that this will transform the girls so trained into cavalrymen and cannoneers athirst for blood and battle, and anxiously calls our attention to the fact (?) that "some may aspire to be military leaders, and become generals." He laments the inevitable loss of ball-room grace of motion and domestic freedom of movement, and in his mind's eye, which we fear hath a somewhat bleared vision, he already sees America's daughters moving "as gracefully as wooden toys," and "filing in and out of church with the air of drilled and disciplined fighters." He sees muskets at Vassar, cannon at Lasell, and cavalry horses and arms at Wellesley.

Let me say for the comfort of this seer, whose vision brings, I imagine, more discomfort to himself than to any one else [like that of Isaiah and other prophets, *Ed.*], that when the girls undertake such work as this

they will do it well, for American girls are of the sort that may be trusted. At the same time it is no less true that if a closer study be made of this alarming subject, it will be shorn of considerably more than half its terrors, and may even be found to possess some merits of its own.

Experience and observation are quite as valuable factors in the decision of a question as mere theorizing upon it. I have never noticed, nor had my attention called by any one else, to what this writer assumes as a fact, that our West Point boys move like wooden toys, nor that their mode of entering a church is that of Waterloo veterans; on the contrary, their military training almost invariably gives them a grace in carriage and bearing quite in advance of that possessed by their untrained fellows. Nor have I found among the Cadets of my acquaintance that the West Point exercises have developed the savage in them, or made them at all tigerish. Then why prophecy so dismally of the girls?

My mates of Lasell have gained by their military drill an erect and graceful carriage, an elastic step (very unwooden, I assure you,—come and see us drill, and confess the truth), the habit of prompt obedience to the word of command, of acting harmoniously in concert, of concentrating attention, and not least, though last, a noticeable delight in order, which argues well for future households in which they will move. They have not acquired therefrom any habits that tend to make them less agreeable in the home, or that at all suggest the barracks.

The statements made by the writer in question remind us of the refusal of a certain odd individual of whom we've read, to eat beef, lest he should grow like in nature to the Texas cattle. Yet, behold! we of America eat beef by the ton, nor is there yet any well authenticated instance of an American Nebuchadnezzar.

Military drill is good for girls. The proof of the pudding, you know, is in the eating; nor do we when we put in a generous handful of currants dread a possible thicket of currant bushes in our pudding.

*Lasell Seminary, Auburndale, Mass.*

We welcome this pleasant defence of military drill in girls' schools, as probably the best that can be made. Of course we were not unaware of the "craze" over Cadets and other officers in uniform which is as fashionable as any "fad" or as the newest "love of a bonnet." But that a strictly military drill imparts that subtle charm called grace to man or woman we sincerely doubt. Indeed a certain stiffness and immobility is taught and secured. Soldiers are drilled into killing machines. God forbid that our sweet girls should ape them.

## MILITARY DRILL FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

Dr. Dudley A. Sargent, Director of the Hemenway Gymnasium, Harvard University, who is an acknowledged authority on athletics says,—"In reference to the gracefulness that is thought to characterize the movements of young cadets, I can only say it is not the outcome of drilling and marching. The soldier is trained to square corners, straight platoons and angular movements. Curves and embellishments are not encouraged in speech, or in action. If you would account for the graceful poise